



County of Los Angeles CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

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WILLIAM T FUJIOKA
Chief Executive Officer

July 20, 2007

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Second District

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Third District

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To: Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky, Chairman
Supervisor Gloria Molina
Supervisor Yvonne B. Burke
Supervisor Don Knabe
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From: William T Fujioka
Chief Executive Officer

WASHINGTON, D.C. UPDATE

Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2008 Commerce/Justice/Science Appropriations Bill

On July 12, 2007, the House Appropriations Committee approved a Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2008 Commerce/Justice/Science (CJS) appropriations bill. The Senate Appropriations Committee approved its version (S. 1745) on June 28, 2007. Both versions would increase, rather than decrease, overall funding for state and local law enforcement programs as proposed by the President. As detailed in the attached table of FFY 2008 funding levels for programs of County interest, both committees also rejected all of the President's proposed program terminations, including the elimination of the State Criminal Alien Assistance Program (SCAAP) and Justice Assistance Grant (JAG).

Before approving the bill, the House Appropriations Committee approved, on a voice vote, an amendment by Representative Honda (D-CA), which increased FFY 2008 SCAAP funding by \$30 million to \$405 million in FFY 2008, which is \$5 million above its FFY 2007 funding level and \$35 million above its Senate FFY 2008 funding level. The County's Washington, D.C. advocates worked with representatives of other affected state and local governments in support of this amendment. The House bill includes \$600 million in FFY 2008 JAG formula grant funding, which is \$80 million above its FFY 2008 funding level and \$5 million above its Senate FFY 2008 funding level.

Each Supervisor
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Similar to the Senate version, the House bill also includes language which would rescind \$87.5 million in unobligated balances for justice assistance administered by the Office of Justice Programs (OJP). As indicated in the June 29, 2007 Washington, D.C. update, the County opposes this language because FFY 2007 funding for state and local formula grant programs, such as SCAAP and JAG, would be subject to rescission (reductions) if OJP fails to award grants before the bill's enactment.

The Bush Administration has threatened to veto either the Senate or House FFY 2008 CJS appropriations bills because their overall funding levels exceed the amounts requested by the President.

We will continue to keep you advised.

WTF:GK
MAL:MT:dc

Attachment

c: All Department Heads
Legislative Strategist

**FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR (FFY) 2008 FUNDING LEVELS
FOR PROGRAMS OF COUNTY INTEREST IN
SCIENCE/STATE/JUSTICE/COMMERCE APPROPRIATIONS BILL
(in millions)**

PROGRAMS	Final 2007	President 2008	Senate 2008¹	House 2008²
Justice				
State Criminal Alien Assistance Program	\$ 400	\$ 0	\$370	\$405
Justice Assistance Grant ³	520	0	595	600
Drug Courts	10	0	25	40
COPS Methamphetamine Grants	63	0	80	85
COPS Technologies & Interoperable Communications ⁴	138	0	110	128
DNA Initiative	107	0	169	175
Juvenile Justice Formula Grant	74	0	68	96
Juvenile Accountability Block Grant	53	0	80	60
Southwest Border Prosecutor Program	30	0	30	30
Economic Development Assistance	251	170	250	270

Footnotes

¹ S. 1745, as reported by the Senate Appropriations Committee on June 29, 2007.

² As approved by the House Appropriations Committee on July 12, 2007.

³ The funding levels are for formula Justice Assistance Grants only.

⁴ The Senate committee report includes \$110 million for COPS "Law Enforcement Technology."